

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 08-12-23**

Date Published: December 18, 2008
For Work Week Commencing: December 22, 2008
Commission Meeting: December 23, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction *This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the latter part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.*

Place of Meetings *All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.*

Live webcast *Unless otherwise noted on this agenda, all Commission meetings held during regular business hours that are noticed on this agenda will be webcast live via the audio and video feed links on the PSC website (<http://psc.mt.gov/eDocs/#Calendars>). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same website location.*

Inquiries *General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. She may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.*

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities *Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.*

9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling (Commission Conference Room – No Web Audio Feed)

9:30 a.m. Business (Bollinger Room)

Public Comments

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Verizon Business Services N2008.12.141 (Scott)

On December 5, 2005, MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services, requested to remove tariffs related to Large Business and Enterprise Customers from Montana Tariff No. 2 and move them to new Tariff No. 3 Dedicated to Large Business and Enterprise Customers.

Probable Motion: Approve Verizon Business Services request in Docket N2008.12.141.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2007.8.93 – Havre Pipeline Company – Application to Decrease Rates and Charges to its Direct Rural Farmstead Customers – Review and discuss the order finalizing Interim Order No. 6869. (12/23/08)
2. D2007.8.96 – Cut Bank Gas Company – Application for Approval of True-Up of Gas Cost Tracking Adjustment – Review and discuss the final order. (12/23/08)
3. D2004.2.21 – PSC Initiated Investigation of Electricity Market Activity Affecting Retail Customers during the Period 2000 through 2001 – Discuss final investigation report, if received, and consider and act on closing this docket. (12/23/08)
4. D2008.12.143 – NorthWestern Energy (NWE) – Application for Automatic Rate Adjustment and Tracking for Taxes and Fees – (1) Discuss and act on procedural process in the docket and whether to issue a notice of application, determination of error, intervention deadline, opportunity to comment, and provisional hearing date; (2) Discuss and act on NWE's motion for interim order. (12/23/08)
5. D2008.4.36 – PSC Initiated Investigation of NorthWestern Corporation's Compliance with Order 6505e – Discuss and act on final order. (12/23/08)
6. D2008.9.119 – Mountain Water Company – General rate case – Act on a motion for interim order asking that the Commission extend the Mountain Water low income discount tariff until December 31, 2009. (12/23/08)

Other Meetings

Weekly Scheduling, Review of Monthly Calendars, and Docket Status Updates (if requested by a Commissioner).

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

Protective Orders – Notice Items The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 38.2.5007. The Commission will rule on the requests no earlier than 10 days after the publication date of this agenda. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Any person wanting a copy of a protective order request should contact the Commission at (406) 444-6199.

1. Ronan Telephone Co./Hot Springs Telephone Co. D2008.1.3 (Jim)

In D2008.1.3, Ronan Telephone Company/Hot Springs Telephone Company will seek issuance of a Commission protective order governing the treatment to be afforded approximately 27 contracts/letters of agreement between Petitioners and other telecommunications carriers.

2. NorthWestern Energy D2008.5.44 (Justin)

On December 15, 2008, NorthWestern Energy filed a Motion for Protective Order to govern the treatment to be afforded the yearly forecast storage volumes, the hard target prices and percentages, and the target volumes associated with long-term hedging strategies.

Protective Orders – Information Items The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008. Copies of these orders may be obtained by calling the Commission at (406) 444-6199.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

N2008.12.138 – NorthWestern Energy – 2008 Natural Gas Biennial Procurement Plan

D2008.12.142 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Interim and Final Propane Supply Rate Adjustment and the Establishment of an Annual Propane Supply Tracking Mechanism for Townsend, Montana

D2008.12.143 – NorthWestern Energy – Application for Automatic Rate Adjustment and Tracking for Fees and Taxes